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IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claims 1-3 and 5-8 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A bendable bottom member of a bed comprising a plurality of ~~side-by-side~~ side-by-side bars bendably connected ~~with~~ to each other ~~to allow~~ allowing the whole extent of the connected bars to be shortened, ~~and~~ extended, and ~~to be~~ curved, said bars being disposed generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bed, one of every adjacent two of the bars ~~is being~~ provided on one face of the bar with a plurality of longitudinal connecting protrusions ~~being extending~~ generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed, while a plurality of recesses for accepting the respective connective protrusions are formed in a corresponding face of an adjacent bar, said recesses having a an approximate rectangular cross-section taken in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bed, said recesses having and right and left lateral walls and top and bottom walls ~~are formed~~ in adjacent bars for accepting protrusions extending from an adjacent bar, said protrusions having an approximate rectangular cross-section taken in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bed, and an elongated generally rectangular cross-section tapered at its tip on a bottom face thereof taken in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed, said protrusions having and faces corresponding in configuration to the walls of said recesses into which the protrusions engage, said recesses accommodating the insertion in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed of protrusions therein in sliding engagement therewith in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed, in such a manner that the connecting protrusions of the bars can be inserted into corresponding recesses of an adjacent bar, whereby motion of adjacent bars in a vertical direction are blocked since so that top and bottom walls of each of the recesses contact a top and bottom face of a corresponding protrusion inserted

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therein, said protrusions having at tips and bases thereof first and second beveled portions, said first beveled portion being formed on a bottom face of each protrusion at its tip and said second beveled portion being formed on a top face of each protrusion at its ~~back~~ base, said first and second beveled portions forming clearances between the protrusions and corresponding faces of the recesses to allow the connecting bars to be bent a preset distance in one direction only, ~~whereby side by side so~~ that adjacent bars can be adjusted in their intervals and can be rotated in one direction up to a predetermined angle, and disengagement preventing means comprising hooks formed at a tip of some of the connecting protrusions, and corresponding accepting recesses having steps therein adapted to engage the hooks, so that the hooks and steps are engaged with each other when the respective adjacent bars are kept furthest away from each other, ~~whereby bars arranged side by side can be adjusted~~ said adjacent bars being adjustable in gaps between adjacent bars, said bars being connected with each other in such a manner that they can be curved as a whole up to a limited predetermined angle in one direction only.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim 1, wherein a bar disposed at an end of the bendable bottom member on one side has only accepting recesses.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim 1, wherein the first beveled portions are formed on lower sides at tips of the connecting protrusions ~~while and the~~ second beveled portions are formed on upper sides at the bases of protrusions, said protrusions being beveled sufficiently to use the ~~bendable bars as~~ bottom member as in a bendable portion between a back region and a waist region.

4. (Cancelled)

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5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim 1, wherein the second beveled portions at the bases of the connecting protrusions are inclined in adaptation to the desired bending angles with the adjacent bars.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim 1, wherein hooks formed at tips of connecting protrusions are provided with the disengagement preventing means, while steps to be engaged with the hooks are formed in corresponding accepting recesses.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim 2, wherein the second beveled portions at bases of connecting protrusions are inclined in adaptation to desired bending angles with adjacent bars.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim 3, wherein the second beveled portions at bases of connecting protrusions are inclined in adaptation to -desired bending angles with adjacent bars, and a gap being formed between every adjacent two connecting protrusions.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)